

Presbyteries

MERIDIAN.

Meridian Presbytery met at Leakesville, Miss., October 10, 1916, and was opened by a sermon from Rev. A. C. Ormond, from Phil. 2:12.

There were 18 ministers and 14 ruling elders present.

Officers: William H. McIntosh was chosen moderator and Mr. W. L. Fox temporary clerk.

Rev. W. D. Mathis was received from the Baptist church and will probably work on the coast.

Licentiate D. P. McIntosh was ordained and installed pastor at Purvis by a commission which reported said action to this meeting of Presbytery.

Rev. W. A. Hall was installed pastor at Leakesville during the session of Presbytery.

Rev. Henry McDowell was installed pastor at Mt. Olive and Prentiss.

Rev. H. M. Jenkins at Fourth church, Meridian and Londerdale; Rev. D. L. Barr, Meridian, Second.

Home Mission Committee placed Dry Creek under care of Rev. Henry McDowell and De Lo under care of Rev. J. W. Allen.

Witherspoon, ruling elders: W. L. Far, of Gulf Port; Dr. J. M. Buchanan, of Meridian (First). Alternates: Mr. Terrall Smith, of Collins; H. C. McCallum, of Olivet.

Laurel was chosen as the place for the spring meeting.

A memorial service in loving remembrance of Rev. P. C. Martin was held on Wednesday night. A memorial by Rev. William B. Bingham was read and followed by addresses by Rev. J. W. Allen, H. C. McCallum, A. C. Ormond, D. H. Scanlon, E. J. Currie, W. A. Hall and William H. McIntosh.

Mr. Martin was pastor of this church and died September 2d. He was doing a good work and was much beloved and will be missed by his church, the community and his Presbytery.

A collection was taken up for the Palmer Orphanage. An overture to the Assembly on the rotary eldership was adopted. Presbytery adjourned to meet at Carlton, at the call of the moderator.

A. B. Coit, S. C.

NORTH ALABAMA.

The Presbytery of North Alabama met with the Arondale church, October 10th. Rev. G. F. Bell preached the opening sermon. Rev. S. E. Hodges was elected moderator and J. E. Hixson temporary clerk.

The Presbyterial sermon was preached by Rev. David Park, on "Fellowship With God."

Conferences were held on Home Missions, Sabbath Schools and the Orphans' Home.

Mr. W. B. Holmes, who had been working for the "Independent Church," applied for restoration to the gospel ministry and for membership in the Presbytery. After a frank statement on his part and a close examination his request was unanimously granted by the adoption of the following paper:

On the recommendation of a special committee the Rev. W. B. Holmes, late associate pastor of the Independent Presbyterian church of Birmingham, has been restored to membership in the Presbytery of North Alabama, and vested with authority to exercise all the functions of the minister of a body. This action was taken at the meeting of the Presbytery of North Alabama, which concluded its session last night, after a three days' meeting held here. It was at the request of Dr. Holmes, who resigned from the Independent church. It will be re-

called that following the resignation of Dr. H. M. Edmonds, of the South Highland church, after a theological discussion at the meeting of the Presbytery last year, the Independent Presbyterian church was formed, and Dr. Holmes became associate pastor. He resigned from the Vine Street Presbyterian church for that purpose.

The report of the committee and Dr. Holmes' readmission was read before the Presbytery yesterday and was adopted. The report follows:

"Your committee, to which was referred for further investigation and recommendation all matters relating to the request of Mr. W. B. Holmes that he be restored to membership in the Presbytery of North Alabama and he reinvested with authority to exercise all the functions of a minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ derived from this court, would report that,

"Whereas, Mr. Holmes has expressed his regret and godly sorrow that he was guilty of schism in rendering the body of Christ, disclaiming at the same time any intention of renouncing or rebelling against the government and discipline of the Presbyterian Church in the United States in the course of conduct for which the censure of deposition was inflicted and to the justice of which judgment he assents, and,

"Whereas, Mr. Holmes in public statement before Presbytery has again affirmed his unchanged belief in and hearty personally acceptance of the Bible as the inspired word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice, in Christ's voluntarily offering up of himself as God's gift of redeeming love to meet all the issues involved in man's sin and alienation from God, in the righteousness of Christ in his life and atoning death as the ground of a sinner's pardon and reconciliation with God, in the justification of the sinner through the imputed righteousness of Christ received by faith, in the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit in applying Christ's righteousness to the soul in the creating and developing of spiritual life therein, together with his acceptance of the Westminster standards as historically interpreted by the Presbyterian Church as containing the system of truth taught in God's holy word; therefore, be it

"Resolved, First, that the Presbytery absolve Mr. Holmes from the sentence of deposition formerly pronounced against him, and restore him to the office of the gospel ministry and the exercise of all the functions thereof as derived from the Presbyterian Church in the United States.

"Second, That the Presbytery does hereby express to Mr. Holmes its gratification at his return to the Presbyterian Church, and assure him of its prayers for the blessing of God upon his labors as he reprosecutes them amid the confidence and esteem of his brethren in the Lord.

"Third, That the moderator convey the judgment of the Presbytery to Mr. Holmes in accordance with the provisions of section 4, chapter 9, rules of discipline.

"J. S. Foster, Chairman,

"T. P. Hay,

"F. B. Webb.

The moderator announced the decision by the use of the form contained in paragraph 230 of the Book of Church Order, after which a prayer was offered, a hymn sung ("Blest be the tie that binds"), and the right hand of fellowship extended.

The organization of a church at Bon Air was reported and the church enrolled.

Rev. J. C. McQueen was received from the Presbytery of Red River and Rev. G. W. Tollett from the Presbytery of Columbia. Dr. E. W. McDougal was dismissed to the Presbytery of Columbia and a resolution of ap-

preciation passed and forwarded along with the certificate of dismissal.

Anniston was selected as the place of next meeting.

W. C. Clark, S. C.

RED RIVER.

The Presbytery of Red River met in the Presbyterian church, Winnfield, La., October 1916, with ten ministers and the same number of ruling elders present.

Officers: With three different moderators the Presbytery was well governed, each one ruling well. Ruling Elder A. D. Morris, of the First church, Shreveport, was first elected. He having been called home unexpectedly Ruling Elder R. T. Glassell, of the Belcher church, was elected in his stead. And Mr. Glassell, finding it impossible to remain throughout the remainder of the meeting, Rev. C. S. Newman, D. D., was elected. Rev. S. H. McBride was elected temporary clerk.

Received: Rev. D. James Cumming from the Presbytery of West Lexington. He has charge of the Natchitoches church and a mission work at Montrose, La., under direction of the Home Mission Committee.

Silliman Institute: Rev. D. F. Wilkinson addressed Presbytery in the interest of the Silliman Collegiate and Industrial Institute, and in obedience to a request from the Board of Trustees of the institution, three members were nominated for positions on the Board of Trustees, should Synod accept the school as a Synodical institution.

Presbyterial Sermons: Rev. S. M. McBride preached a strong sermon on the subject of "Infant Baptism," and Rev. H. M. McLain was appointed to preach, at the next meeting, on "God's Providences."

Sunday-School Work: By special order, made at the last meeting of the Presbytery, Sunday-school work was made the outstanding feature of this meeting. The entire afternoon and evening of the second day were devoted to discussions of various phases of this work, under direction of Mr. R. T. Glassell, Presbyterial chairman of the committee on this cause. The members of the committee are laymen, only one of whom was absent from this meeting. At a popular meeting in the evening a large audience heard most excellent addresses from those members present, Messrs. R. T. Glassell, T. H. Scovell, Henry Rose and J. H. Nelson. The committee has been exceedingly active since its appointment last spring. Visits by two or more members going together have been made to eleven Sunday-schools, where the effort has been made to increase Sunday-school sentiment, and to aid in perfecting organizations where such was needed. There is, perhaps, at this time a deeper interest in Sunday-school work throughout the Presbytery than at any time in its history.

Endowment Fund: A helpful and interesting address upon this subject was made by Rev. C. S. Newman, D. D., and Presbytery urged pastors to call upon their laymen to present the cause of the Endowment Fund to their congregations before December 31st.

Home Missions: In general, the fields are reported in good condition. Only two churches are vacant, and a number of mission points have regular preaching. An unusually large number have been added to the churches and a petition for the organization of a church at Montrose, La., was reported favorably upon. Arrangements were made for effecting the organization at an early date. Presbytery consents to the transfer of Rev. Fortune Pierre and Rev. Edgar White, together with Good Hope and Red Lick churches, and the control of Good Hope School for the organization of Central Louis-

iana Presbytery. The chairman appealed for a more liberal support of this cause.

Next Meeting: Belcher, La., Tuesday, April 17, 1916, 7:30 P. M.

Rev. Alwin Stokes and his people made ideal hosts. They have a beautiful new church, and from the thorough preparations made for our comfort and happiness, while there, no one would suspect that it was the first experience of this congregation in entertaining Presbytery.

H. M. McLain, S. C.

PINE BLUFF.

The Presbytery of Pine Bluff met at Lake Village, Ark., on Tuesday, October 10, 1916, and was opened with a sermon by the retiring moderator, Rev. W. F. Rogers, on Deut. 6:6-9. There were ten ministers and seven ruling elders present.

Rev. William A. Rolle was elected moderator and Rev. Flournoy Shep-erson reading clerk.

Rev. C. H. Maury, who has been the efficient stated clerk and treasurer of Presbytery for many years, resigned and, at his own request, was dismissed to the Presbytery of Washburn.

The overture from the General Assembly's Committee on Stewardship relative to a conference on Stewardship, to be held in January or February, was announced in the negative.

The Home Mission Committee reported progress in the Home Mission work of Presbytery, and also the organization of a church to be known as Mt. Carmel church, at Eudora.

Warren was chosen as the next place of meeting and the time set for the second Friday in April, 1917, at 7:30 P. M.

Rev. William A. Rolle was elected by a unanimous vote stated clerk and treasurer of Presbytery.

Presbytery adopted an overture to the Synod of Arkansas to dispense with the fall narrative report.

Rev. F. L. Delaney was granted permission to labor within the bounds of Presbytery for the next six months.

Rev. J. H. Morrison was received from Ouchita Presbytery and placed in charge of a group of churches composed of West Helena, Holly Grove and Marvell.

Presbytery adopted, by a rising vote, a resolution of thanks to Mr. A. B. Banks, of Fordyce, for his great kindness in presenting the ministers of the Presbytery with life insurance policy for a thousand dollars each and defraying the expense of the premiums himself.

Presbytery also tendered a rising vote of thanks to the church and people of Lake Village for their generous hospitality, after which it adjourned to meet in Warren, in April, 1917.

William A. Rolle, S. C.

LOUISIANA.

The Presbytery of Louisiana met in Oakdale, La., October 10, 1916. Ten ministers and six ruling elders were present. Rev. W. A. Zeigler was elected Moderator and Rev. C. B. Tomb temporary clerk.

The reports from the churches were encouraging. Many of the churches had special evangelistic meetings during the summer, which proved a great blessing. We are pleased to note that the spirit of evangelism and Sunday-school missions is growing.

The report of the Committee of Foreign Missions showed a contribution from every church in the Presbytery for that cause last year. It also showed a contribution of \$2.50 per resident member. This is a fine showing.

The president of Silliman College, Rev. N. B. Currie, reported twenty-eight new girls enrolled. The prospects for a prosperous session were never better. Special attention is